

IN THE CLAIMS

Listing of the claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A process of preparing glycolaldehyde which comprises reacting formaldehyde with hydrogen and carbon monoxide in the presence of a catalyst composition comprising:

- a) a source of rhodium, and
- b) a ligand of general formula



wherein R^1 is a bivalent radical that together with the phosphorous atom to which it is attached is an optionally substituted 2-phospha-tricyclo[3.3.1.1{3,7}]-decyl group, wherein from 1 to 5 of the carbon atoms have been replaced by a heteroatom, and wherein R^2 is a monovalent radical which is an optionally substituted hydrocarbyl group having from 1 to 40 carbon atoms.

2. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the catalyst composition further comprises c) a source of anions.

3. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein bivalent radical R^1 together with the phosphorous atom to which it is attached is a 2-phospha-1,3,5,7-tetraalkyl-6,9,10-trioxa-tricyclo[3.3.1.1{3,7}]-decyl group.

4. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein monovalent radical R^2 is an alkyl group having from 4 to 34 carbon atoms.

5. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein monovalent radical R^2 is of the general formula



wherein R^3 is an alkylene group and R^4 and R^5 independently represent an alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or alkaryl group, or R^4 and R^5 together represent a bivalent bridging group.

6. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the formaldehyde is aqueous formaldehyde and the reaction is performed in a reaction medium comprising an aqueous phase and an organic phase, wherein the organic phase and aqueous phase are immiscible at 22 °C.

7. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 6, wherein the organic phase comprises a water-immiscible amide solvent.

8-18. (Cancelled)